

# RADIO TV REPORTS, IN

4701 WILLARD AVENUE, CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20815 (301) 656-40

FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM NBC Nightly News

STATION WRC TV  
NBC Network

DATE September 26, 1986 7:00 PM CITY Washington DC

SUBJECT NSA Dedication

TOM BROKAW: Later today President Reagan gave a pep talk to the United States intelligence community, the people who have been trying to repair the damage from a recent series of American spy cases and defections. To make his case, the President appeared at dedication ceremonies for new facilities of the National Security Agency. That's America's top secret intelligence gathering agency. And as NBC's Andrea Mitchell reports tonight, the President's appearance was highly unusual, but the White House thought it was necessary in these troubled times.

ANDREA MITCHELL: The National Security Agency is so secret that no one is even supposed to talk about what it does.

Over the objection of some intelligence officials, however, the White House turned the dedication of the agency's new headquarters into a full-blown media event to boost morale after a series of spy cases.

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN: Our most sensitive defense secrets and most advanced technology have been stolen, given to our adversaries out of misguided motives or attempts at financial gain.

MITCHELL: The intelligence community is still reeling from its losses. Most damaging, Ronald Pelton, who admitted selling secrets to the KGB after working for the NSA for 14 years. Edward Howard, the first CIA defector in 35 years. The Walker family, a spy ring that betrayed secret Navy codes. And the re-defection of KGB operative Vitaly Yurchenko.

Amid the fanfare of today's ceremony, some intelligence

OFFICES IN: WASHINGTON D.C. • NEW YORK • LOS ANGELES • CHICAGO • DETROIT • AND OTHER PRINCIPAL CITIES

Material supplied by Radio TV Reports, Inc. may be used for file and reference purposes only. It may not be reproduced, sold or publicly demonstrated or exhibited.